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NOTES AND NEWS

Graduates of the University of Leipzig! The University of Leipzig is **about to celebrate** its five-hundredth anniversary. Many graduates of Leipzig are desirous of uniting in some way to show their appreciation of the work done there, and all graduates are requested to send their addresses to Principal J. P. Cushing, the High School, New Haven, Conn.

The Northern Illinois Teachers' Association, at its meeting in Joliet, November 6 and 7, centers attention upon the topic of "Moral and Religious Education in the Public Schools." Professors Coe of Northwestern, Starbuck of Iowa, Cook of DeKalb, and Soares of Chicago speak at the general session Friday afternoon; President Judson of Chicago and State Superintendent Blair, Friday evening; Professors Bagley of Illinois and Votaw of Chicago, Saturday morning. Besides this central topic the following resolution will be discussed Saturday morning:

Resolved, That the minimum annual wages of all qualified teachers in the public schools of Illinois should, in no event, nor under any circumstances, be less than \$365.00, and that whenever a school district by taxing itself to the limit authorized by law is unable to pay this amount, the deficit should be supplied by the state or the school district annexed to another district in which the payment of a minimum wage as large as the one specified in this resolution can be paid.

At the section meetings Friday afternoon the "Function and Autonomy of the High School with Relation to the Elementary School and to the College," will be considered by Superintendent Bryan of St. Louis, Professors McMurry and Libby of DeKalb and Northwestern, Principals Smith and Loomis of Harvey and Chicago, and President Lord of Charleston.

The next annual meeting of the National Society for the Promotion of Industrial Education will be held in Atlanta, Ga., November 19, 20, and 21.

Readers of the *Review* doubtless have learned through the daily press of the arrangements through the National Civic Federation by Mr. Alfred Mosely for the visit of teachers to England. The secretary of the Federation, Mr. Roland P. Falkner, 281 Fourth Avenue, New York, has issued a circular giving an account of the preparations made in England, and providing useful directions. The prominence of those who are co-operating in the movement makes it certain that extraordinary opportunities will be offered to observe the educational work of England, as well as to see the things which every American deserves to see in the mother country. We are happy to announce that Mr. H. E. Coblenz, of Milwaukee, who is so well known to our readers for his discriminating book reviews, will write a series of articles for us upon his observations.

THE SCHOOL REVIEW

School authorities dealing with the question of high-school fraternities will be interested in the decision of Judge Windes, of Chicago. The Board of Education had passed a vote abolishing the fraternities. A pupil in the Hyde Park high school, who refused to sign a pledge to withdraw from a society, filed a petition for a mandatory writ to compel the school board to reinstate him without his having to give up his allegiance to his fraternity. The school board maintained that the existence of the fraternities was an open rebellion against regulations. The court denied the writ, thus sustaining the board.

The present year has been marked by the number of international congresses in which the universities, the learned societies, and the government of the United States are to participate. Among these are the conference of the Parents' National Educational Union in Bristol, England, last June, the conference for the Advancement of Drawing and Art Teaching in London in August, an International Moral Education Congress in London in September, an International Congress on Instruction in Domestic Economy and Home Industries at Fribourg, Switzerland, in September.

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B O S T O N N E W Y O R K C H I C A G O

NOTES AND NEWS

Most interesting of all in certain respects is the First Pan-American Scientific Congress which will meet at Santiago, Chile. This was at first announced for December 1st, but has been postponed until the holiday season (December 25-January 8) to give a better opportunity for teachers to attend. Many institutions from the United States, as well as the government, will send representatives. Such a congress can hardly fail to be an important agency in promoting better understanding and mutual respect between all American peoples.

Gifts to higher education in the United States last year amounted to \$23,127,762. Dr. Wallace Buttrick, secretary of the Boston Board of Education, has compiled a complete statement of such gifts, from letters received from the heads of all institutions of collegiate rank. Illinois leads with over four million dollars, most of which is, however, due to large gifts to The University of Chicago.

Doubt concerning the desirability of trade schools come chiefly from the representatives of organized labor who fear that the public trade schools will flood the labor market and increase the sharpness of competition for work. But, as Robert A. Woods observes, "it is inconceivable that as a class school-trained workmen should not be even more jealous than others of all unreasonable encroachments upon their wage standard, and that they should not apply their additional training to the development of even more effective forms of labor organization than now exist."

"Every year the advantages of well-ordered certificates over examinations become apparent" says a report from Smith College in the *Educational Review* (June). "The judgment of conscientious and competent teachers is less likely to err than the judgment formed from hurriedly written examinations."

The College Entrance Examination Board, founded in 1900, has grown in the past eight years to include practically every college and secondary school in the United States. The *Literary Digest* (July 25) contains an account of the history of this board. It was organized in a meeting at Columbia University and was designed to enable students to take entrance examinations for a co-operating group of colleges, without the necessity of going to the college itself for the purpose. Fifteen colleges were represented the first year, from the Middle States and Maryland. Examinations were held in sixty-seven places in the United States and two in Europe. With the second year the Board invited the New England colleges to join it. By 1907 the number of schools represented had reached 712. The Board has done much toward equalizing standards of admission throughout the country. It has, however, no power actually to admit a student to a college. Each institution inspects the candidate's certificate and passes in detail upon the subjects therein included.

THE SCHOOL REVIEW

The question of why young men go to college is interesting as showing the educational ideals given in secondary education. Wesleyan University has recently made a careful study of the future occupations of its undergraduates. Twenty-five per cent. enter the freshman class without the least idea of what they are going to do with their college course, moved only by a desire for a higher level of culture. Twenty per cent. of those examined expected to enter commercial pursuits, and only 15 per cent. expected to teach. Recent report from Princeton confirms this analysis of the changing constituency of the colleges. The proportion of the class of 1902 that went into business was three times the proportion in the class of 1892, while 30 per cent. of all the living alumni are in business.

The act making appropriations for legislature, executive, and judicial expenses of the government for the year ending June 30, 1909, which includes the appropriations for the United States Bureau of Education, provided for an increase of only \$1,250 over the amount for the current year. The additional amount includes an increase of \$1,000 in the salary of the commissioner of education, making it \$4,500 per annum; also an increase of \$250 in the appropriation for books for the library current educational periodicals, other current publications, and completing valuable sets of periodicals, making the amount available for such purposes, \$500. No appropriation whatsoever was made for the investigation of special educational problems by the Bureau of Education, for which purpose the secretary of the interior strongly requested an appropriation of \$40,000.

A great advance in industrial education has been made in the bill which by Governor Hughes's sanction has become law in New York. It authorizes the establishment by any city of general and special industrial schools. The former are to be open to boys over fourteen, the latter to boys over sixteen who have completed the grammar grades or the first industrial course. The state is to contribute \$500 a year for the support of every school organized under the act, if only one teacher is employed and the number of pupils does not exceed twenty-five. For each additional teacher the state contributes \$200 more.

Americans have more knowledge of the English language than the English themselves, says Professor Skeat, the well-known philologist, in a despatch to the *New York Sun*. Training in the English language is carried on with much greater strictness in America, phonetics are taken seriously, and attention is paid to pronunciation. The English schools treat Latin and Greek as of dominant importance, and the pupil is apt to be quite ignorant of his own language. This rather startling admission on the part of a Cambridge professor was called forth in defense of a similar statement by Professor Brandt of Berlin.